

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HAVANA 01965 120144Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-07 CEA-01 HA-05
/118 W

-----096268 130116Z /70

R 111740Z JUL 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2473
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCNSUL OSAKA KOBE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L HAVANA 1965

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV EFIN CU JA
SUBJ: JAPANESE VICE-MINISTER TO VIST CUBA

REF: A. TOKYO 12109 B. HAVANA1758

1. JAPANESE EMBASSY (SUZUKI), JULY 11, INDICATED THAT VICE-MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHARGED WITH RELATIONS WITH DIET WOULD BE VISITING CUBA IN AUGUST. SUZUKI MAINTAINED THAT VISIT IS NOT RELATED TO COMMERCIAL OR FINANCIAL TRANSACTION, BUT VICE-MINISTER DOES INTEND TO MEET WITH FIDEL CASTRO. (FYI SUZUKI ASSERTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE CONTROVERSY IN DIET OVER CUBAN ROLE IN AFRICA. END FYI).

2. SUZUKI, INCIDENTALLY, CLAIMED THAT JAPANESE MOFA HAD QUESTIONED MINISTRY OF FINANCE OVER PROPIETY OF LATEST LOAN TO CUBA. ACCORDING TO SUZUKI, MINISTRY OF FINANCE CLAIMED IT HAS LIMITED DISCRETION IN THESE MATTERS. SUZUKI ADDED THAT JAPANESE BANKS ARE THIRSTING FOR LOAN OPPORTUNITIES, AND 7.9 PERCENT (FULL YEAR BSIS), FIXED RATE CHARGED TO CUBANS LOOKS VERY GOOD
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IN LIGHT OF FALLING INTEREST RATES IN JAPAN. (FYI SUZUKI INDICATED THAT SUMITOMO BANK AND TRUST WOULD BE SUPPLYING 2.3 BILLION OF THE 5 BILLION YEN PACKAGE TO CUBA. END FYI).

3. ON OTHER JAPANESE-CUBAN ECONOMIC NEWS, CHIEF CUBAN SUGAR TRADER EMILIANO LEZCANO HAS INFORMED US THAT, DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO JAPAN, HE MANAGED TO SELL 100 THOUSAND TONS

OF SUGAR ABOVE AGREED JAPANESE PURCHASE LEVEL OF 300
THOUSAND TONS. (COMMENT: USINT IS UNABLE TO ASSESS VERACITY
OF LEZCANO'S STATEMENT. IF IT IS TRUE, ADDITIONAL SALES
MARK SUCCESSFUL BEGINNING OF CUBAN EFFORT TO EXPAND AGAIN
THEIR MARKET SHARE AT EXPENSE OF AUSTRALIANS.)
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 jul 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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